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CLAIMS

1. A vegetable room for a refrigerator comprising:  
a vegetable box disposed inside a refrigerator in which cooling air is  
5 supplied and circulated and which a shelf for receiving food item is provided,  
having a receptacle space for receiving food items formed to be opened  
upwardly;  
a box cover for covering an opening side of the vegetable box to  
close the receptacle space of the vegetable box and having a cooling air  
10 ventilating hole formed at one side thereof to allow cooling air to be  
introduced into the receptacle space; and  
a cooling air opening and closing unit for selectively opening and  
closing the cooling air ventilating hole of the box cover.
- 15 2. The vegetable room of claim 1 further comprising:  
a cover support unit for connecting the box cover and the shelf so  
that the box cover can be supported at the lower side of the shelf.
3. The vegetable room of claim 2, wherein the cover support  
20 unit is formed eccentric toward the front side on the basis of the center of the  
box cover so that when the vegetable box is separated from the lower side of  
the shelf, the front side of the box cover is relatively lifted compared to the  
rear side thereof due to its self weight.

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4. The vegetable room of claim 3, wherein the cover support unit comprises:

a hinge bracket extended downwardly from both left and right sides of the shelf and having a hinge hole formed therein; and

5 a hinge shaft extended at both left and right sides of the box cover and inserted into the hinge hole so as to be movable vertically.

5. The vegetable room of claim 4, wherein the hinge hole is formed long vertically.

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6. The vegetable room of claim 3, wherein the cover support unit comprises:

a hinge bracket extended upwardly from both left and right sides of the vegetable box and having a vertically long hinge hole formed therein;

15 and

a hinge shaft extended to both left and right sides of the shelf and inserted into the hinge hole so as to be movable vertically.

7. The vegetable room of claim 1, wherein the cooling air opening and closing unit comprises:

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an opening and closing member rotatably fixed at the cooling air ventilating hole of the box cover;

a first protrusion formed protruded upwardly from the opening and

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closing member;

a knob installed to be movable linearly at one side of the shelf; and

a second protrusion formed protruded downwardly from the knob and rotating the opening and closing member by interacting with the first  
5 protrusion when the knob is moved.

8. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the cooling air opening and closing unit is installed at a front side of the refrigerator.

10 9. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the cooling air opening and closing unit is installed at a rear side of the refrigerator.

10. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the opening and closing member is formed long approximately perpendicular to a direction  
15 that cooling air is introduced, in order to ensure a smooth introduction of cooling air into the vegetable box.

11. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the opening and closing member is formed platy with a certain thickness and provided with a  
20 cylindrical support shaft extended at both sides thereof, and the support shaft is rotatably inserted into insertion holes formed at both sides of the cooling air ventilating hole to allow the opening and closing member to be rotatably supported at the inner side of the cooling air ventilating hole.

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12. The vegetable room of claim 11, wherein the support shaft is formed eccentric toward a front side or toward a rear side on the basis of the center of the opening and closing member so that the opening and closing member can close the cooling air ventilating hole by its rotation according to self weight.

13. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein a guide groove is formed at the shelf to guide a linear movement of the knob.

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14. The vegetable room of claim 13, wherein a guide slot is formed at the inner side of the guide groove to allow the second protrusion to pass through the shelf and guide a linear movement of the second protrusion.

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15. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the first protrusion is formed inclined at a certain angle in order to rotate the opening and closing member by being pushed by the second protrusion.

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16. The vegetable room of claim 7, wherein the first protrusion and the second protrusion respectively have a curved shape with a certain curvature at portions where they are mutually contacted with each other so that they can be smoothly slid.

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17. The vegetable room of claim 1, wherein a plurality of ribs are formed at the bottom of the box cover with a certain height and with a certain width to collect moisture inside the vegetable box.

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18. The vegetable room of claim 12, wherein the ribs have a grid form.